



MATTAPAN COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER

1 575 Blue Hill Avenue, Mattapan, MA 02126 | ph. 617-296-0061 | fax. 617-296-5408 | www.mattapanchc.org

July 17, 2014

Attorney General Martha Coakley
Attn: Antitrust Division
Office of Attorney General
One Ashburton Place, 18th Floor
Boston, MA 02108

Dear Attorney General Coakley:

This letter is to support the fair Agreement between Partners HealthCare, and SSH, HHS and HMA. This support is based on Mattapan Community Health Center's firsthand experience of Partners strong commitment to community health care. Specifically, Partners has been a constant in its support of our underserved Mattapan community -- programmatically to help the health center to improve the health status of women and children, and to fight cancer mortality, as well as provided much needed support for our recent capital project.

Partners has an impressive history of supporting other community-based programs and services as well. A long standing goal has been to improve patient care through care coordination. Therefore, Partners is committed to assuring that primary care physicians and community hospitals are clinically and financially connected. That is likely the backbone of Partners' decision to affiliate with SSH, HHS and HMA. Surely, this connection will help promote a more effective and efficient way for patients, across the entire continuum of care -- from academic medical centers, to rehabilitation and long-term care as well as behavioral health and other specialty services, to receive care.

In order to achieve this goal of improving patient care with communities, Partners has demonstrated a commitment to care for entire populations of patients and invest in services that will improve access for them. Their initiative called Population Health Management sets the foundation for these affiliations and it allows them to carry out the mandate of the new state health care reform law (known as Chapter 224) and the federal Affordable Care Act. When Partners makes a commitment to SSH, HHS and HMA to work with them to bring the best care possible to their patients and their families -- believe them, they will.

Attorney General Coakley, we greatly appreciate your role in protecting the public's interest. It is well known that there has been a 4+ year exhaustive investigation, an open process per Chapter 224 with multiple state agencies holding several public hearings, and active media coverage to keep the public informed every step along the way. You assured that the Agreement is comprehensive with specific monitoring requirements over the next 10 years. Further, you require Annual Reports from Partners which is another way to guarantee the protection of the public's interest. It is our understanding that the Department of Justice also supports this Agreement.

Thank you for allowing us to lift our voices of support for the Partners Agreement. They have a strong track record of caring about access for individuals to comprehensive community health care. We are happy to stand with them!

Sincerely,

Azzie Young, PhD, MPA
President and Chief Executive Officer